

Amendments to the Specification

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 30, line 12, with the following amended paragraph:

According to an aspect of the present invention, there is provided a method of treating a surface comprising the steps of

- ~~providing~~ providing a coating composition according to any of claims 1 to 52 comprising particles of a polyolefin wax or of a mixture of polyolefin waxes suspended in a liquid phase, wherein the mixture of polyolefin wax or the components in the mixture of polyolefin waxes are selected from the group consisting of polyethylene waxes, polypropylene waxes, and oxidized polyethylene and polypropylene waxes. The liquid phase may be an alcohol, preferably ethanol, and water. The coating composition can contain up to 10% by weight auxiliary agents selected from the group consisting of diluting agents, dispersing agents, conservation agents, emulsifying agents and coloring agents;

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 30, line 24, with the following amended paragraph:

According to another aspect of the present invention, there is provided a method of providing a surface with a protecting coating by

~~- applying applying a coating composition according to any of claims 1 to 52 to the surface;~~ The coating composition comprises particles of a polyolefin wax or of a mixture of polyolefin waxes suspended in a liquid phase, wherein the mixture of polyolefin wax or the components in the mixture of polyolefin waxes are selected from the group consisting of polyethylene waxes, polypropylene waxes, and oxidized polyethylene and polypropylene waxes. The liquid phase may be an alcohol, preferably ethanol, and water. The coating composition can contain up to 10% by weight auxiliary agents selected from the group consisting of diluting agents, dispersing agents, conservation agents, emulsifying agents and coloring agents;

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 35, line 6, with the following amended paragraph:

~~Preferred embodiments are disclosed in claims 1 to 52.~~

**Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 35, line 8,
with the following amended paragraph:**

According to other aspects of the present invention, there is
provided a

- ~~use~~ Use of the present coating composition according to any
of claims 1 to 52 for treating a surface; The coating composition comprises
particles of a polyolefin wax or of a mixture of polyolefin waxes suspended
in a liquid phase, wherein the mixture of polyolefin wax or the components
in the mixture of polyolefin waxes are selected from the group consisting of
polyethylene waxes, polypropylene waxes, and oxidized polyethylene and
polypropylene waxes. The liquid phase may be an alcohol, preferably
ethanol, and water. The coating composition can contain up to 10% by
weight auxiliary agents selected from the group consisting of diluting
agents, dispersing agents, conservation agents, emulsifying agents and
coloring agents.

- ~~use~~ Use of the present coating composition according to any
of claims 1 to 52 for providing a surface with an essentially permanent anti-
graffiti coating; Comprises particles of a polyolefin wax or of a mixture of
polyolefin waxes suspended in a liquid phase, wherein the mixture of
polyolefin wax or the components in the mixture of polyolefin waxes are

selected from the group consisting of polyethylene waxes, polypropylene waxes, and oxidized polyethylene and polypropylene waxes. The liquid phase may be an alcohol, preferably ethanol, and water. The coating composition can contain up to 10% by weight auxiliary agents selected from the group consisting of diluting agents, dispersing agents, conservation agents, emulsifying agents and coloring agents.

- use Use of the present coating composition according to any of claims 1 to 52 for providing a surface with an essentially permanent coating protecting against pollution and corrosion; and. The coating composition comprises particles of a polyolefin wax or of a mixture of polyolefin waxes suspended in a liquid phase, wherein the mixture of polyolefin wax or the components in the mixture of polyolefin waxes are selected from the group consisting of polyethylene waxes, polypropylene waxes, and oxidized polyethylene and polypropylene waxes. The liquid phase may be an alcohol, preferably ethanol, and water. The coating composition can contain up to 10% by weight auxiliary agents selected from the group consisting of diluting agents, dispersing agents, conservation agents, emulsifying agents and coloring agents.

- use Use of the present coating composition according to any of claims 1 to 52 for providing an underwater structure, e.g. a ship hull,

with an essentially permanent anti-fouling coating. The coating comprises particles of a polyolefin wax or of a mixture of polyolefin waxes suspended in a liquid phase, wherein the mixture of polyolefin wax or the components in the mixture of polyolefin waxes are selected from the group consisting of polyethylene waxes, polypropylene waxes, and oxidized polyethylene and polypropylene waxes. The liquid phase may be an alcohol, preferably ethanol, and water. The coating composition can contain up to 10% by weight auxiliary agents selected from the group consisting of diluting agents, dispersing agents, conservation agents, emulsifying agents and coloring agents.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 35, line 24, with the following amended paragraph:

According to other aspects of the present invention, there is provided an

- ~~article~~ Article of manufacture comprising a structure with a surface coated ~~by the method according to any of claims 53 to 56; and with~~ the present coating composition. The surface is treated by providing a coating composition as described above, applying the coating composition to the surface, evaporating the liquid phase from the applied coating

composition, and subjecting the dried, applied coating composition to a heat treatment to coalesce the wax particles. The coating composition can be applied to the surface by spraying, and may be applied to the surface in an amount of 50 to 350 ml per m².

- ~~article~~ Article of manufacture comprising a structure with a surface coated by use of the present coating composition ~~according to any of claims 1 to 52.~~ The coating composition comprises particles of a polyolefin wax or of a mixture of polyolefin waxes suspended in a liquid phase, wherein the mixture of polyolefin wax or the components in the mixture of polyolefin waxes are selected from the group consisting of polyethylene waxes, polypropylene waxes, and oxidized polyethylene and polypropylene waxes. The liquid phase may be an alcohol, preferably ethanol, and water. The coating composition can contain up to 10% by weight auxiliary agents selected from the group consisting of diluting agents, dispersing agents, conservation agents, emulsifying agents and coloring agents.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 36, line 1, with the following amended paragraph:

In one embodiment the article is ~~the~~ a set of blades of a turbine, such as a windmill turbine. One advantage of using the method ~~according~~

~~to any of claims 53 to 56 described above and/or the coating composition according to any of claims 1 to 52 described above~~ is to provide the blades with a durable and protective surface coating.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 36, line 6, with the following amended paragraph:

In one embodiment the article is a tank for fluids or solid substances, e.g. a metal tank or a glasfibre tank. One advantage of using the method ~~according to any claims 53 to 56 described above and/or the coating composition according to any of claims 1 to 52 described above~~ is to provide the metal tank with a durable and protective surface coating.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 36, line 12, with the following amended paragraph:

In one embodiment the article is a plate made of eternit (fibre cement), particularly for the roofing and facing purposes for buildings. One advantage of using the method ~~according to any of claims 53 to 56 described above and/or the coating composition according to any of claims 1 to 52 described above~~ is to provide plates made of eternit (fibre cement) with a durable and protective surface coating.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 36, line 18, with the following amended paragraph:

In one embodiment the article is a plate made of marble, particularly for facades for buildings. One advantage of using the method ~~according to any of claims 53 to 56 described above~~ and/or the coating composition ~~according to any of claims 1 to 52 described above~~ is to provide plates made of marble with a durable and protective surface coating.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 36, line 24, with the following amended paragraph:

In one embodiment the article is a metal object, particular a wing of an aeroplane. One advantage of using the method ~~according to any of claims 53 to 56 described above~~ and/or the coating composition ~~according to any of claims 1 to 52 described above~~ ~~described above~~ is to provide the metal object with a surface coating to improve the de-icing of the metal object.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 36, line 30, with the following amended paragraph:

According to an aspect of the present invention, these objects may be obtainable by providing:

a method of treating a sheet comprising the steps of

- ~~providing~~ Providing a coating composition according to any of claims 1 to 52; comprising particles of a polyolefin wax or of a mixture of polyolefin waxes suspended in a liquid phase, wherein the mixture of polyolefin wax or the components in the mixture of polyolefin waxes are selected from the group consisting of polyethylene waxes, polypropylene waxes, and oxidized polyethylene and polypropylene waxes. The liquid phase may be an alcohol, preferably ethanol, and water. The coating composition can contain up to 10% by weight auxiliary agents selected from the group consisting of diluting agents, dispersing agents, conservation agents, emulsifying agents and coloring agents.

- evaporating said liquid phase from the applied coating composition; and

- subjecting said dried, applied coating composition to a heating treatment to coalesce said wax particles;

and/or

a method of producing a coated sheet comprising the steps of

- applying a coating composition as described above according to ~~any of claims 1 to 52~~ to at least one surface of the sheet;
 - evaporating said liquid phase from the applied coating composition;
 - subjecting said dried, applied coating composition to a heating treatment to raise the temperature of the dried coating composition to bring said particles of a polyolefin wax or of a mixture of polyolefin waxes into a coalescing state allowing said wax particles to provide a continuous coating of the sheet; and
- allowing said heat treatment coating to consolidate to a protective coating.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 42, line 27, with the following amended paragraph:

In one embodiment of the invention, an article comprising a sheet is produced by ~~the method of producing a coated sheet according to claim 64~~ applying a coating composition as described above to at least one surface of the sheet; evaporating the liquid phase from the applied coating composition; subjecting the dried, applied coating composition to a heating treatment to raise the temperature of the dried coating composition to bring the particle of the polyolefin wax or a mixture of polyolefin waxes

into a coalescing state, thereby allowing the wax particles to provide a continuous coating of the sheet; and allowing the heat treated coating composition to consolidate to form a protective coating.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 43, line 1, with the following amended paragraph:

In one embodiment of the invention an article comprising a sheet is produced by ~~the method of producing a coated sheet according to claim 64~~ applying a coating composition as described above to at least one surface of the sheet; evaporating the liquid phase from the applied coating composition; subjecting the dried, applied coating composition to a heating treatment to raise the temperature of the dried coating composition to bring the particle of the polyolefin wax or a mixture of polyolefin waxes into a coalescing state, thereby allowing the wax particles to provide a continuous coating of the sheet; and allowing the heat treated coating composition to consolidate to form a protective coating, which article further comprises a liner bonded to a major sheet surface.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 43, line 20, with the following amended paragraph:

In one embodiment a structure has been covered fully or in part with an article ~~of claim 73~~ which is a sheet treated by the above-described method, wherein the structure is selected from the group consisting of buildings, parts of buildings, elevators, windows, doors, tiles, walls, partitions, furniture, signs, bill boards, artwork, and vehicles.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 43, line 25, with the following amended paragraph:

In one embodiment the structure is ~~according to claim 77~~ covered fully or in part with a sheet coated as described above wherein the vehicle is selected from the group consisting of buses, trains, automobiles, and ~~subways~~ subway-trains.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 43, line 29, with the following amended paragraph:

In one embodiment the use of ~~an article of claim 73~~ a sheet treated by the above-described method is for providing a surface of a structure ~~according to any of claims 77-78~~ with an essentially permanent anti-graffiti coating selected from the group consisting of buildings, parts of

buildings, elevators, windows, doors, tiles, walls, partitions, furniture, signs, bill boards, artwork, and vehicles including buses, trains, subway trains, and automobiles.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 44, line 1, with the following amended paragraph:

In one embodiment the use of ~~an article of claim 73~~ a sheet treated by the above-described method for providing a surface of a structure ~~according to any of claims 77-78~~ selected from the group consisting of buildings, parts of buildings, elevators, windows, doors, tiles, walls, partitions, furniture, signs, bill boards, artwork, and vehicles including buses, trains, subway trains, and automobiles with an essentially permanent coating protecting against pollution and corrosion.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 44, line 5, with the following amended paragraph:

In one embodiment a method ~~according to claim 82~~ is ~~provided~~provides a surface of a structure with a protective coating by coating a film on the structure comprising the steps of applying a coating composition as described above to the film; evaporating the liquid phase from the applied coating composition ~~subjecting the dried, applied coating~~

composition to a heat treatment to raise the temperature of the dried coating composition to coalesce the particles of polyolefin wax or mixtures of polyolefin waxes to provide a continuous coating on the film and allowing the heat treated coating composition to consolidate to a protective coating.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 44, line 7, with the following amended paragraph:

In one embodiment a method according to claim 83 is provided provides a surface of a structure with a protective coating by coating a film on the structure by applying a coating composition as described above to the film; evaporating the liquid phase from the applied coating composition subjecting the dried, applied coating composition to a heat treatment to raise the temperature of the died coating composition to coalesce the particles of polyolefin wax or mixtures of polyolefin waxes to provide a continuous coating on the film and allowing +the heat treated coating composition to consolidate to a protective coating. In this embodiment, the sheet comprises an adhesive layer having a first major adhesive layer side and a second major adhesive layer side that defines the bottom surface of the sheet and film having a first major film side and a second major film side, wherein the second major film side is bonded to the first major

adhesive side, and the coating composing is applied to the first major film side.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 44, line 9, with the following amended paragraph:

In one embodiment a method according to claim 84 is provided provides a surface of a structure with a protective coating by coating a sheet on the structure comprising the steps of applying a coating composition as described above to the sheet; evaporating the liquid phase from the applied coating composition subjecting the dried, applied coating composition to a heat treatment to raise the temperature of the dried coating composition to coalesce the particles of polyolefin wax or mixtures of polyolefin waxes to provide a continuous coating on the film and allowing the heat treated coating composition to consolidate to a protective coating. In this embodiment the sheet comprises a first major adhesive layer side and a second major adhesive layer side that defines the bottom surface of the sheet, and two or more films, each having a first major film side and a second major film side, and each film is stacked upon another film such that a second major film side of a film above is bonded to a first major film side of a film below, except that the lowest film in the stack that

has its second major film side is bonded to the first major adhesive layer side, and the topmost film side is subject to the coating method.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 44, line 11, with the following amended paragraph:

In one embodiment a method according to claim 85 is provided provides a surface of a structure with a protective coating by coating a sheet on the structure by applying a coating composition as described above to the sheet; evaporating the liquid phase from the applied coating composition; subjecting the dried, applied coating composition to a heat treatment to raise the temperature of the dried coating composition to coalesce the particles of polyolefin wax or mixtures of polyolefin waxes to provide a continuous coating on the film and allowing the heat treated coating composition to consolidate to a protective coating. The sheet comprises two or more layers 205, each pair of layers 205 comprising an adhesive layer 202 having a first major adhesive layer side and a second major adhesive layer side, and a film 203 having a first major film side and a second major film side with the second major film side being bonded to the first major adhesive layer side, and each pair of layers 204 is stacked upon another pair of layers 204 such that a second mayor adhesive layer side of a pair above is bonded to a first major film side of a pair of layers

204 below, and the topmost film side 204 is subjected the present coating method.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 44, line 13, with the following amended paragraph:

In one embodiment a method according to claim 86 is provided provides a film as described above wherein the film further comprises one or more of the applicable structures selected from the group consisting of lacquer, overprint, clear, clearcoat or backing, and combinations thereof, applied thereto. In one embodiment a method provides a surface of a structure with a protective coating by coating a sheet on the structure comprising the steps of applying a coating composition as described above to the sheet; evaporating the liquid phase from the applied coating composition; subjecting the dried, applied coating composition to a heat treatment to raise the temperature of the dried coating composition to coalesce the particles of polyolefin wax or mixtures of polyolefin waxes to provide a continuous coating on the film and allowing the heat treated coating composition to consolidate to a protective coating or a major film side.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 44, line 15, with the following amended paragraph:

In one embodiment a method according to claim 87 is provided provides a surface of a structure with a protective coating by coating a sheet on the structure comprising by applying a coating composition as described above to the sheet; evaporating the liquid phase from the applied coating composition ;subjecting the dried, applied coating composition to a heat treatment to raise the temperature of the died coating composition to coalesce the particles of polyolefin wax or mixtures of polyolefin waxes to provide a continuous coating on the film and allowing the heat treated coating composition to consolidate to a protective coating. In this embodiment the sheet has a thickness of between 20 microns and 8000 microns, more preferably between 10 microns and 2000 microns, and more preferably between 30 microns and 500 microns.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 44, line 17, with the following amended paragraph:

In one embodiment a method according to claim 88 is providedprovides a surface of a structure with a protective coating by coating a film on the structure by applying a coating composition as described above to the film; evaporating the liquid phase from the applied

coating composition; subjecting the dried, applied coating composition to a heat treatment to raise the temperature of the dried coating composition to coalesce the particles of polyolefin wax or mixtures of polyolefin waxes to provide a continuous coating on the film and allowing the heat treated coating composition to consolidate to a protective coating. The film has a thickness of between 20 microns and 40000 microns, preferably between 20 microns and 2000 microns, more preferably between 20 microns and 3500 microns, even more preferably between 20 microns and 250 microns.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 44, line 19, with the following amended paragraph:

In one embodiment a structure has been subjected to the method of any of claims 81-88, as described above wherein the structure is selected from the group consisting of buildings, elevators, windows, doors, tiles, walls, partitions, furniture, signs, bill boards, artwork, and vehicles.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 44, line 24, with the following amended paragraph:

In one embodiment the structure is a vehicle provided with a film according to claim 88 having a thickness as described above, wherein

the vehicle is selected from the group consisting of buses, trains, automobiles, and subways ~~subway~~-trains.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 44, line 28, with the following amended paragraph:

In one embodiment the use of the method as described above ~~of any of claims 81-88 is for providing~~ provides a surface of a structure as described above ~~according to any of claims 89-90~~ with an essentially permanent anti-graffiti coating.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 45, line 1, with the following amended paragraph:

In one embodiment the use of the method described above ~~of any of claims 81-88 is for providing~~ a surface of a structure as described above ~~according to any of claims 89-90~~ with an essentially permanent coating protecting against pollution and corrosion.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 45, line 5, with the following amended paragraph:

In one embodiment the use of the method described above ~~of any of claims 81 to 88 is for providing~~ provides a surface of a structure as

described above ~~according to any of claims 89 to 90~~ with an essentially permanent anti-graffiti coating.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 45, line 9, with the following amended paragraph:

In one embodiment the use of the method described above of ~~any of claims 81 to 88 is~~ for providing a surface of a structure as described above ~~according to any of claims 89 to 90~~ with an essentially coating against pollution and corrosion.